GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5475
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2005
DECLINE IN PRICE OF VANILLA IN KERALA
Surendran Shri Chengara

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has noticed the decline in price of Vanilla in Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the Government proposes to take any steps to help the Vanilla growers in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA):

(a) The district-wise price trend of vanilla (green fruit) in Kerala from the year 2001-02 to 2004-05 are given in the table below:

(Rs./Kg.)

District	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05
Kottayam	800	1100	3650	600
Idukki	660	1612	2900	250
Palakkad	720	1100	3500	275
Kozhikode	600	1200	3600	250
Wayanad	1000	1300	3000	275
Kannur	650	900	3000	260

After November 2004 price of vanilla decreased to Rs. 250 per kg.

(b) and (c) The Government implements the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) in respect of horticulture commodities which are not covered under the Minimum Support Price (MSP) scheme. In order to protect the growers of horticulture commodities from distress sales in the event of bumper crops. MIS is implemented for a particular commodity on the request of the State Government which is ready to bear 50% loss (25% in case of North-Eastern States), if any, in its implementation. The Spices Board under the Ministry of Commerce is also encouraging farmers for curing vanilla beans to store the commodity and to market the same at a remunerative price level.